recommended by the Members of Parliament, can be taken up for the creation of durable assets based on locally felt needs. That Ministry has issued detailed guidelines on the MPLADS. The illustrative list of works that can be taken up under the MPLADS includes construction of only buildings of public libraries and reading rooms. However, books, furniture and fixtures, etc., are not allowed to be purchased for the public libraries and reading rooms as there is specific restriction on purchase of inventory of stock of any type.

Varying leave periods in schools

4374. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dates and periods of leave declared by the authorities of Central Schools, State Government Schools and Government aided schools are always different, even in one particular zone;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry of Human Resource Development would intervene and issue necessary instructions for bringing uniformity for declaration of dates and periods of leave and also for admission in all the schools, at least in one particular zone;

(d) if so, by when this instruction would be issued; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) 'Education' is on the concurrent list and school education is primarily the concern of the State/UT Governments. The matter regarding declaration of dates and periods of leave are within the jurisdiction of the State/UT Governments. However, in case of schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education(CBSE), the Board has prescribed in its Affiliation Bye-Laws that the working days and holidays in the schools will be as per State Government Schools or Kendriya Vidyalayas. However, in Kendriya Vidyalayas, leave periods are declared uniformly throughout the country.

Plight of female children

4375. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY:

SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious plight of Female Children in the country, specially in Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the alleged selling and killing of Female Children by Lambda tribals of Telangana region; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pre-conditions for running technical courses

4376. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether prior approval of AICTE is a must for running technical courses like B. Tec. in Bio-Technology, the criteria for approval to run technical courses;

(b) whether AICTE/UGC guidelines are to be followed by Deemed Universities;

(c) whether Vellore Institute of Technology has admitted students in above courses after taking huge capitation fee, without AICTE's prior approval and without any syllabus, adequate faculty and infrastructure; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the institute and Government's withdrawal of approval, if already granted, for running the above courses and to withdraw the Deemed University status?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Approval of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is required for running technical courses. AICTE considers proposals on the basis of duly prescribed regulations and also keeping in view financial viability, availability of infrastructure like building, classroom, faculty, etc. as per the prescribed norms and standards.

(b) The regulations of the AICTE are also applicable to the Deemed University for imparting technical courses.

(c) and (d) As per the regulations issued by the AICTE, no professional institute is authorised to receive from the students any other payment or amount